



CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & PROTECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Annual Joint Meeting with Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities

May 24, 2016

Maryland Department of the Environment – 1800 Washington Blvd; Baltimore, MD

CEHPAC MEMBERS: Dr. D. Abney, V. Carrella; Sen. Guzzone (staff – phone); Dr. B. Gitterman; Dr. M. Latshaw; J. Levy; Dr. J. Miller; Dr. C. Mitchell; B. Stockdale; B. Thomas N. Witherspoon (phone)

GUESTS: Juliana Bilowich – Maryland PIRG; Allison Rich – MD Environmental Health Network; Cind Eckard – mmb of public

CEJSC Members: Subha Chandar, Rebecca Rehr, Arabia Davis, Richard Fairbanks, Vernice Miller-Travis, Lisa Nissley, Delegate Clarence Lam, Steve Levitsky, Benoy Thomas, Janet Moyer Cornick

STAFF: R. Hess-Mutinda, DHMH

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Mitchell and Vernice Miller-Travis, chairs of CEHPAC and CEJSC respectively, opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions. C. Mitchell gave an overview of the purpose of meeting.

CEHPAC Business

➤ **WI FI IN CLASSROOMS WORKGROUP UPDATE**

Literature review completed by MPH student looking at exposures and health affects of wi-fi in classroom. Workgroup and CEHPAC next steps are to possibly share some guidelines and guiding document w/ public and MSDE.

➤ **Marcellus Shale motion/PDF**

V. Carella shared the draft letter and motion to send letter to UM Institute for Applied Environmental Health; A motion was suggested to accept and send letter – all yes, chair and vice-chair abstain, Motion passes.

CEJSC Business

➤ **July 2016 Retreat:** Unanimously decided to have it at the Perdue headquarters in Salisbury, MD.

➤ **Overview 2016 Clean Air Update:** Tad Aburn gave an overview on the 2016 Clean Air in Maryland indicating that for the first time in 30 years; Maryland is

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Contact: Rachel Hess-Mutinda

410-767-2196 or Rachel.hess-mutinda@maryland.gov

meeting all federal health base air quality standards. However, there is still work to be done to meet our air quality goals and to obtain and maintain the new ground level ozone standards. Tad said out of the 18 ozone monitors, 15 are already below the new ozone standards of 70 parts per billion (ppb). He said it's going to be a lot of new inexpensive monitoring over the years and indicated that he would be interested in working with the commissions on community based efforts in this area.

Joint Discussion

- **Climate Change:** Dr. Cliff Mitchell stated that Climate Change commission has several working groups, one being Mitigation and the other being Adaptation. Adaptation working group is working on climate changes happening now and how do we adapt as a state to do that? Phase 1 from a state level is examining sea level rise and adaptation to sea level rise. This initiative is a genesis of Coast Smart; a plan in place to help the state adapt to coastal sea level rise by changing the elevation of structures among requirements. Phase 2 involves addressing how do the state responds to public health changes regarding climate change? This would include things such as; change in infection disease, injury rates, motor vehicle accidents, temperature related injury, respiratory diseases and asthma. Dr. Mitchell says CDC now has a grant opportunity for the commission to do a 5 year plan looking at adaptation specifically related to identifying vulnerable population and making sure adaptation strategy include not just the state as a whole but particularly vulnerable populations. Dr. Mitchell stated DHMH is in the process of writing that grant and ask for support letters from CEJSC and CEHPAC. The second thing is there are tasks that need to be done such as; how to identify vulnerable populations and working with the DHMH and the Office of Minority Health Disparities to identify those vulnerable populations. Also, consider where they are geographically and the type and the type of people at risk in order to design and craft specific outreach efforts for them in light of what we anticipate for climate change health impact.

Dr. Mitchell said part of their Environmental Public Health Tracking project is going to be working with the Department of Planning. He believes that now with the environmental health tracking project in a position to give zip code level data to health departments, local planning authorities and others can assist with determining baseline health status of the population and to help identify from that vulnerable population that will be vulnerable as climate change take place. Tracking quarters should be release around June 30, 2016.

Veronika Carella said that if you really want to affect change, we have to begin influencing the zoning regulations and correcting mistakes within them.

It was voted on and approved to jointly look into the research opportunities, to look at the vulnerable population and climate mitigation arena.

- **Lead in Drinking Water:** Nancy Reilman of MDE gave overview of regulations, policies and procedures for review and oversight of drinking water in MD, by MDE. Discussion then focused on fact that a number of the public schools across the state are not covered by MDE program because they are part of a larger water system. Meaning there isn't a mandated federal program for testing these schools. There were discussions over regulatory gaps between federal and state government water systems authority particularly in schools.

Wrap Up and Adjourn

Next 2016 CEHPAC meetings: July 29, September 19 and November 14